EXHIBIT A

General Civil and Domestic Relations Case Filing Information Form

Date: 8/29/2024 6:21 PI Che Alexander, Cler

	■ Superior or □ State Court of Fulton					County			
	For Clerk Use Date Filed	Only 3/29/2024 MM-DD-YYYY			2 Case Number _	4CV011058			
Plainti f Simms					Defendant(s) Truist	Bank	·		·
Last	First	Middle I.	Suffix	Prefix	Last Equifax	First Information	Middle I. Services	Suffix LLC.	Prefix
Last	First	Middle I.	Suffix	Prefix	Last	First	Middle I.	Suffix	Prefix
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	First	Middle I.	Suffix	Prefix	Last	First	Middle I.	Suffix	Prefix
Plainti	iff's Attorney _	LaTonya Sims			State Bar Nur	mber <u>711135</u>	Self	-Repres	ented 🗆
	☐ Civil ☐ Cont ☐ Post- ☐ Garn ☐ Gene ☐ Habe ☐ Injur ☐ Land ☐ Med ☐ Prod ☐ Real ☐ Rest ☐ Othe	mobile Tort Appeal empt/Modification Judgment ract ishment eral Tort eas Corpus nction/Mandamus llord/Tenant ical Malpractice T luct Liability Tort Property raining Petition er General Civil	s/Other \	Writ	00 00 000	medical supports of the property of the proper	nent of chort, or alimoverce/Sepa Alimony ce Petition arenting Tire itimation D vate (non-IV	ony irate me/Visit /-D)	ation
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	Is a foreign l	anguage or sign-la	inguage	interpret	er needed in this	case? If so, pro	ovide the lan	guage(s)	required.
			Languag	e(s) Requi	red				
	Do you or yo	our client need any	disabilit	y accomr	nodations? If so,	please describ	e the accomi	modatio	n request.

Page #ultoa County Superior Cou

EFILEDT

Date: 8/29/2024 6:21 Pl Che Alexander, Cler

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

DONNA SIMMS,

Plaintiff,

v.

TRUIST BANK & EQUIFAX INFORMATION SERVICES, LLC.

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 24CV011058

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Donna Simms (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through the undersigned counsel, the Law Offices of Robert S. Gitmeid & Associates, PLLC, by way of Complaint against Defendants, Truist Bank ("Truist") and Equifax Information Services, LLC ("Equifax") alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1.

This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer for Defendants' violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.

(the "FCRA") and other claims related to unlawful credit reporting practices. The FCRA prohibits furnishers of credit information from falsely and inaccurately reporting consumers' credit information to credit reporting agencies.

PARTIES

2.

Plaintiff, Donna Simms, is an adult citizen of Maryland.

3.

Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(c) of the FCRA.

4.

Defendant Truist is a financial services company, organized and existing under the laws of North Carolina, that furnishes consumer credit information to consumer reporting agencies.

5.

Defendant Equifax is a limited liability company, headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, that engages in the business of maintaining and reporting consumer credit information.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6.

The Court holds jurisdiction over defendant Truist under O.C.G.A. § 9-10-91 because (1) Truist transacted business with Equifax in relation to the acts and omissions at issue; (2) Truist's acts and omissions at issue were committed in Georgia by way of Truist's interactions with Equifax; and (3) Plaintiff's injury in this case occurred in Georgia by way Equifax's inaccurate credit reporting.

7.

The Court holds jurisdiction over defendant Equifax under O.C.G.A. § 9-10-91 because (1) Equifax transacted business with Truist in relation to the acts and omissions at issue; (2) Equifax's acts and omissions at issue were committed in Georgia by way of Equifax's interactions with Truist; and (3) Plaintiff's injury in this case occurred in Georgia by way Equifax's inaccurate credit reporting.

8.

Venue is proper in Fulton County because defendant resides in Fulton County and because the acts and omissions at issue occurred here.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

9.

Defendant Truist issued account ending in 7569 to Plaintiff. The account was routinely reported on Plaintiff's consumer credit report.

10.

The consumer report at issue is a written communication of information concerning Plaintiff's credit worthiness, credit standing, credit capacity, character, general reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living which is used or for the purpose of serving as a factor in establishing the consumer's eligibility for credit to be used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(d)(1) of the FCRA.

11.

On or about July 17, 2023, Plaintiff and Truist entered into a settlement agreement for the above referenced account. A recording of the settlement agreement is available upon request.

Pursuant to the terms of the settlement, Plaintiff was required to make a lump sum payment by August 11, 2023 totaling \$2,309.64 to settle and close her Truist account.

13.

Plaintiff, via her debt-settlement representative, timely made the requisite settlement payment. Proof of this payment is attached hereto as **Exhibit A.**

14.

However, many months later, Plaintiff's Truist account continued to be negatively reported.

15.

In particular, on a requested credit report dated January 31, 2024, Plaintiff's Truist account was reported with a status of "CHARGE OFF," a balance of \$4,619.00 and a past due balance of \$4,619.00. The relevant portion of Plaintiff's credit report is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

This trade line was inaccurately reported. As evidenced by the enclosed documents, the account was settled for less than full balance and must be reported as settled with a balance of \$0.00.

17.

On or about May 6, 2024, Plaintiff, through counsel, notified Equifax directly of a dispute with completeness and accuracy of the reporting of Plaintiff's Truist account. A redacted copy of this letter is attached hereto as **Exhibit C**.

18.

Therefore, Plaintiff disputed the accuracy of the derogatory information reported by Truist to Equifax via certified mail in accordance with 15 U.S.C. § 1681i of the FCRA.

19.

In June of 2024, Plaintiff requested an updated credit report for review. The tradeline for Plaintiff's Truist account remained inaccurate, as Defendants failed to correct the inaccuracy. The relevant portion of the June 2024 credit report is attached hereto as **Exhibit D**.

Equifax did not notify Truist of the dispute by Plaintiff in accordance with the FCRA; or alternatively Equifax did notify Truist, and the Defendants failed to properly investigate and delete the tradeline or properly update the tradeline on Plaintiff's credit reports.

21.

If the Defendants had performed a reasonable investigation of Plaintiff's disputes, Plaintiff's Truist account would have been updated to reflect a "settled" status with a balance of \$0.00.

22.

Although Truist has promised through its subscriber agreements or contracts to accurately update accounts, Truist has nonetheless willfully, recklessly, or negligently failed to follow this requirement, as well as the requirements set forth under the FCRA. This has resulted in the intended consequences of this information remaining on Plaintiff's credit reports.

23.

Defendants failed to properly maintain and failed to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of Plaintiff's credit information

and Plaintiff's credit report, concerning the account in question, thus violating the FCRA. These violations occurred before, during, and after the dispute process began with Equifax.

24.

At all times pertinent hereto, Defendants were acting by and through their agents, servants and employees, who were acting within the scope and course of their employment, and under the direct supervision and control of the Defendants herein.

25.

At all times pertinent hereto, the conduct of Defendants, as well as that of their agents, servants and employees, was intentional, willful, reckless, or negligent and in wanton disregard for federal law and the rights of the Plaintiff herein.

CLAIM FOR RELIEF

26.

Plaintiff reasserts and incorporates herein by reference all facts and allegations set forth above.

Equifax is a "consumer reporting agency," as codified at 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(f).

28.

Truist is an entity who, regularly and in the course of business, furnishes information to one or more consumer reporting agencies about its transactions or experiences with any consumer and therefore constitutes a "furnisher," as codified at 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2.

29.

Truist is reporting inaccurate credit information concerning Plaintiff to one or more credit bureaus as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a of the FCRA.

30.

Plaintiff notified Defendants directly of a dispute on the account's completeness and accuracy, as reported.

31.

Truist failed to complete an investigation of Plaintiff's written dispute and provide the results of an investigation to Plaintiff and the credit bureaus within the 30-day statutory period as required by 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b).

Truist failed to promptly modify the inaccurate information on Plaintiff's credit report in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b).

33.

Equifax failed to delete information found to be inaccurate, reinserted the information without following the FCRA, or failed to properly investigate Plaintiff's disputes.

34.

Equifax failed to maintain and failed to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of Plaintiff's credit report, concerning the account in question, violating 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(b).

35.

As a result of the above violations of the FCRA, Plaintiff suffered actual damages in one or more of the following categories: lower credit score, denial of credit, embarrassment and emotional distress caused by the inability to obtain financing for everyday expenses, rejection of credit card application, higher interest rates on loan offers that would otherwise be affordable, and other damages that may be ascertained at a later date.

As a result of the above violations of the FCRA, Defendants are liable to Plaintiff for actual damages, punitive damages, statutory damages, attorney's fees and costs.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands that judgment be entered against Defendants as follows:

- (a) That judgment be entered against Defendants for actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n or alternatively, 15 U.S.C. § 1681o;
- (b) That judgment be entered against Defendants for statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n;
- (c) That judgment be entered against Defendants for punitive damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n;
- (d) That the Court award costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n or alternatively, 15 U.S.C. § 1681o; and
- (e) That the Court grant such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff demands trial by jury in this action of all issues so triable.

Respectfully Submitted,

Law Offices of Robert S. Gitmeid & Associates, PLLC

/s/ LaTonya Sims
LaTonya Sims, Esq.

Georgia Bar No. 711135 LaTonya.S@gitmeidlaw.com 100 Galleria Parkway, Suite 1570 Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Tel: (770) 874-2445 Fax: (770) 299-2111

Counsel for Plaintiff Donna Simms

EXHIBIT A

ACH Confirmation

Item Information

Originator ABA:
Receiver ABA:
Individual Name: Donna Simms
Individual ID No:
Trace Number:

Account Number: 5453
Transaction Code: Amount: \$2,309.64
Description:

Batch Information

Company Name: TRUIST RCVR

Service Class: SEC Code:

Company Entry Description:

Batch Number:
Company ID:
Effective Entry Date: 7/17/2023
Settlement Date:



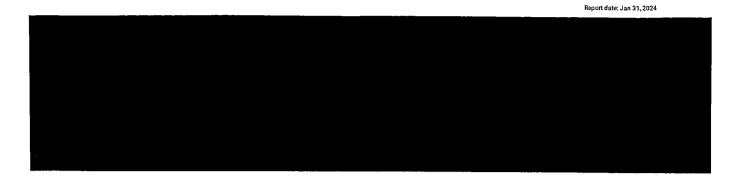
EXHIBIT B

Provided by **EQUIFAX**

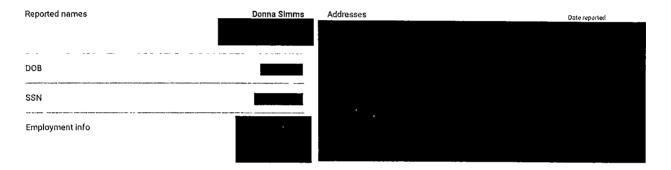
Credit report

or other order

Your credit is in fair shape



Personal info



Account summary



Accounts

Credit cards

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	Payment history			Open bate			
		\$		Last Activity			
				Туре		Credit C	ard
		1		Responsibility	/	Individ	lual
				Remarks	Unarged Off Accoun	it, Account Closed By Credit Gran	ntor
				Times 30/60/	90 Days Late		
-				Months Revie	wed		

Term Source Type

High Balance

Case 1:24-cv-04528-VMC	Document 1 4 de Credit Filed 10/07/24	Page 20 of 3
	Creditor information	
	TRUIST BANK 150 S STRATFORD RD	
	WINSTON SALEM, NC 271044227	
	(336) 733-2000	
Amount Past Due	\$4,619.00	
	•	

. .

EXHIBIT C



The Law Offices of ROBERT S. GITMEID & ASSOC., PLLC

May 6, 2024

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Transunion Consumer Solutions P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016

Experian P.O. Box 4500 Allen, TX 75013 Equifax Information Services, LLC P.O. Box 740256 Atlanta, GA 30374-0256

Re: Creditor: Account No.: SSN: Address: Donna Simms Truist Bank Ending in 7569 Ending in

Dear Sir and/or Madam,

Please be advised that this office was retained to represent Donna Simms with respect to her claims for violations under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15. U.S.C. § 1681, et seq. (the "FCRA") and other claims related to unlawful credit reporting practices.

On or about July 17, 2023, Ms. Simms and Truist Bank ("Truist") entered into a settlement agreement for the above-referenced account. A recording of the settlement agreement is available upon request. Pursuant to the terms of the settlement, Ms. Simms was required to make a lump sum payment totaling \$2,309.64 to settle and close her Truist account. Ms. Simms, via his debt settlement representative, timely made the requisite settlement payment. Proof of this payment is attached herein for your review.

However, many months later, Ms. Simms' account continues to be negatively reported. In particular, on a requested credit report dated January 31, 2024, Mr. Simms' account was reported with a status of "CHARGE OFF", a balance of \$4,619.00 and a past due balance of \$4,619.00. The relevant portion of Ms. Simms' credit report is attached herein for your review. The trade line was inaccurately reported. As evidenced by the enclosed documents, the account was settled in full and has a balance of \$0.00.

Please take notice that this dispute is made pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681i under the FCRA. Therefore, if this inaccuracy is not corrected within thirty (30) days, we will pursue further legal process on behalf of our client.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Melissa Rodriguez
Paralegal
The Law Offices of Robert S. Gitmeid
& Associates, PLLC
Melissa.R@gitmeidlaw.com
(866) 249-1137

ACH Confirmation

Item Information

Originator ABA:
Receiver ABA:
Individual Name: Donna Simms
Individual ID No:
Trace Number:

Account Number: 5453
Transaction Code: Amount: \$2,309.64
Description:

Batch Information

Company Name: TRUIST RCVR

Service Class: SEC Code:

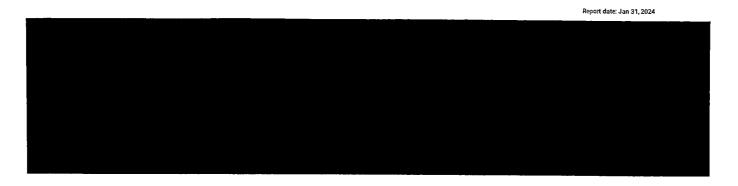
Company Entry Description:

Batch Number:
Company ID:
Effective Entry Date: 7/17/2023
Settlement Date:

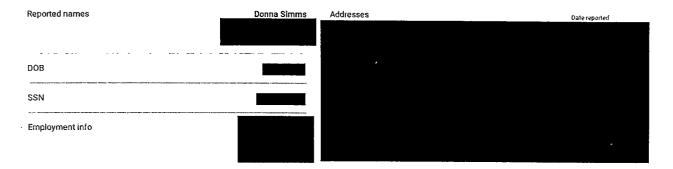
Credit report

Your credit is in fair shape

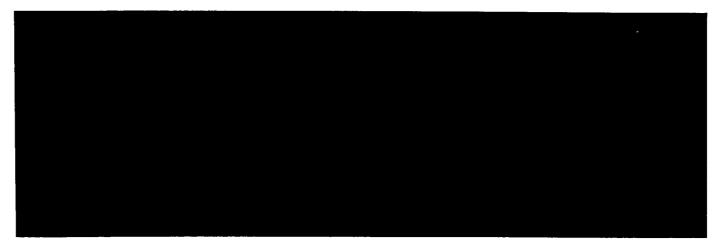
Provided by **EQUIFAX**



Personal info

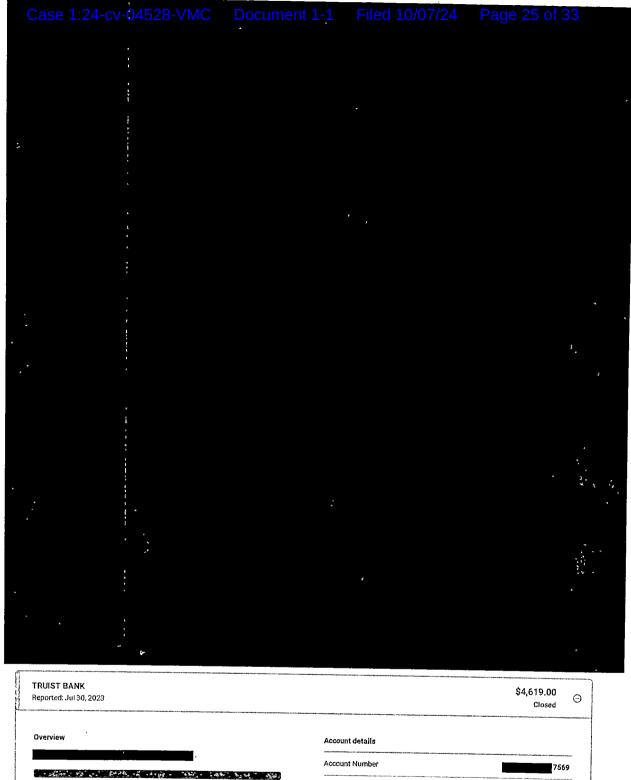


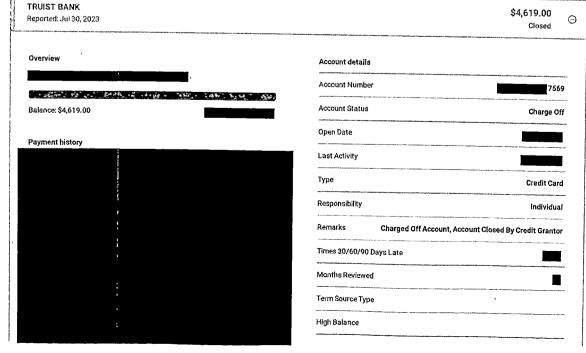
Account summary



Accounts

Credit cards





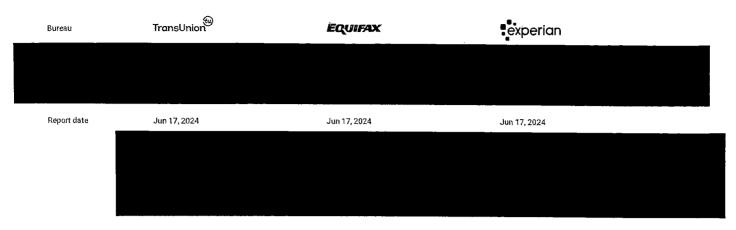
Case 1:24-cv-04528-VMC	Documen	It 1#4h CreditFiled 10/07/24	Page 26 of 33
		Creditor information	
		TRUIST BANK 150 S STRATFORD RD	
		WINSTON SALEM, NC 271044227	
		(336) 733-2000	
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Amount Past Due	\$4,619.00		

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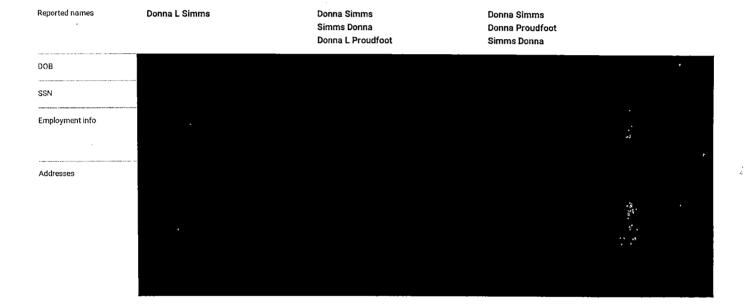
EXHIBIT D

Credit report

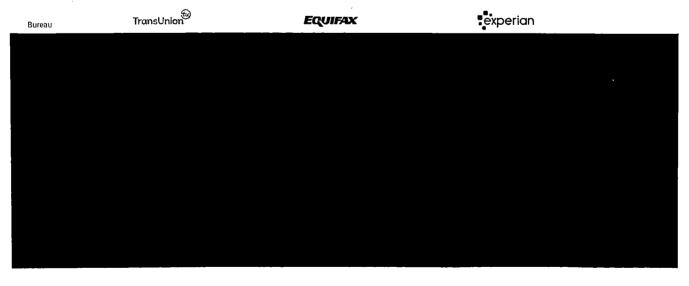
TransUnion Equifax Experian All bureaus



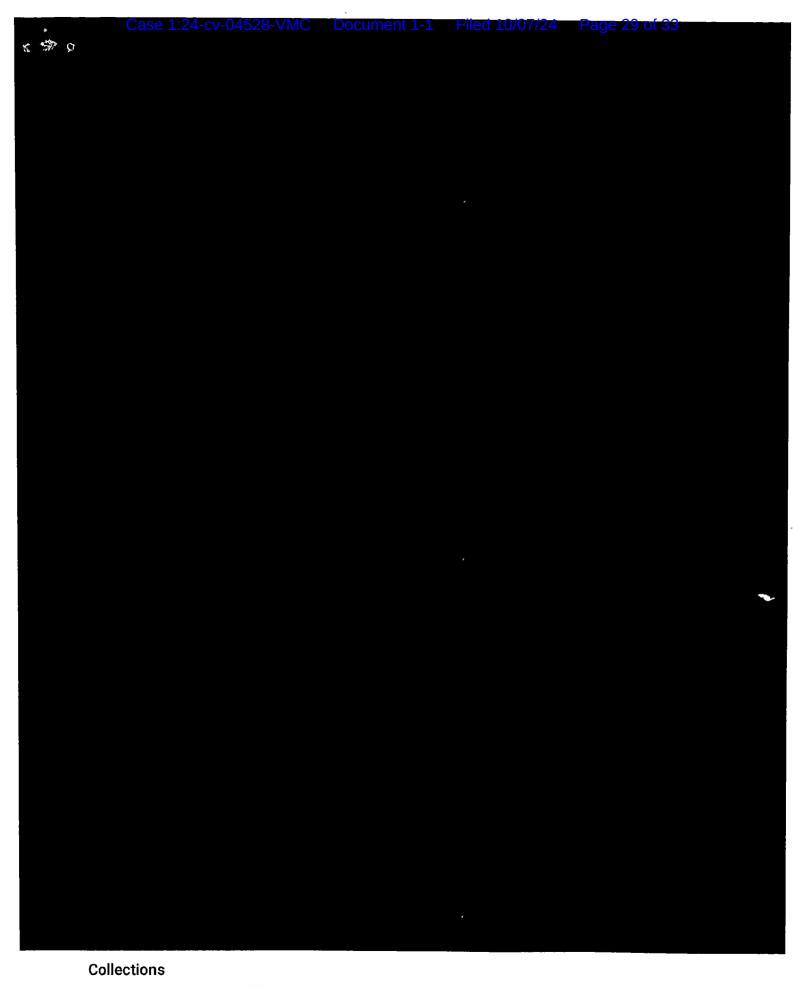
Personal info



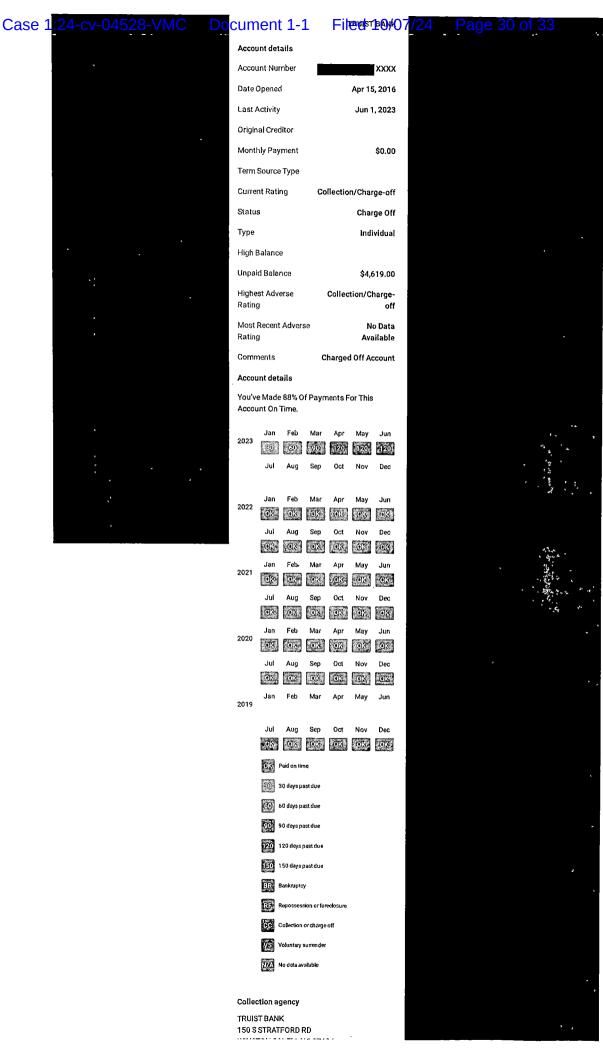
Account summary



Accounts



It's important that you try your best not to fall behind on payments so your account doesn't get passed on to a collections agency. This usually drops your credit score significantly.



Che Alexander, Cler



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA 136 PRYOR STREET, ROOM J2 C-103, ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303 **SUMMONS**

DONNA SIMMS) Case) No.:	24CV0	11058 	
Plain	tiff,)))			
vs. TRUIST BANK)))			
EQUIFAX INFORMAT)))			
Defen	dant)))	,		
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFEN	IDANT(S):	,			
You are hereby summoned an https://efilega.tylertech.cloudserve upon plaintiff's attorne	/OfsEfsp/ui/landing (unle	ss you are			cally) and
Law 30 W	onya Sims, Esq. Offices of Robert S. Git /all Street, 8th Floor #74 York, NY 10005	meid & A I1	ssoc., PLLC		
An answer to the complaint v summons upon you, exclusiv	•				
within five (5) business days	•	_		•	
service has been filed. IF YC AGAINST YOU FOR THE					TAKEN
This 29th	_{day of} August	, 20	24		
			ble Ché Alexa		
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To defendant upon whom this p This copy of complaint and sum				, 20	
			Deputy	y Sherriff	



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA 136 PRYOR STREET, ROOM J2 C-103, ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303 **SUMMONS**

DONNA SIMMS) Case) No.:)	24CV011058
Plaintiff,		
vs. TRUIST BANK)))	
EQUIFAX INFORMATION SERVICES, LLC	<u>c</u> }	
Defendant))))	
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S):		
You are hereby summoned and required to file elechttps://efilega.tylertech.cloud/OfsEfsp/ui/landing (userve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, whose name and addressed to the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, and the serve upon plaintiff's attorney, and the serve upon plaintiff's attorney upon plaintiff's attorn	ınless you are	
LaTonya Sims, Esq. Law Offices of Robert S. 30 Wall Street, 8th Floor New York, NY 10005	Gitmeid & As #741	ssoc., PLLC
An answer to the complaint which is herewith serve summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service within five (5) business days of such service. Then service has been filed. IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO, AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF DEMAND	; unless proof of time to answer JUDGMENT	of service of this complaint is not filed shall not commence until such proof of BY DEFAULT WILL BE TAKEN
This 29th day of August		
		le Ché Alexander, Clerk of
	Superior By (Court Yaugh Deputy Clerk
To defendant upon whom this petition is served: This copy of complaint and summons was served upon years.	ou	, 20
		Deputy Sherriff

Document 1-1

Filed 10/07/24

Page 138 onf 33 unty Superior Court

EFILEDMH Date: 9/5/2024 4:22 PM

Che Alexander, Clerk

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

Case: 24CV011058	Court: In the State of Georgia Superior Court	County: Fulton, GA	Job: 11732683	
Plaintiff / Petitioner: Donna Simms		Defendant / Respondent: Truist Bank, Equifax Information Services LLC		
To be served up Truist Bank	pon:			

I, Watasha Willis, being duly sworn, depose and say: I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action. Below is the service Information for the documents served:

Recipient Name / Address: Heather Hughes, Authorized Agent, Corporation Service Company: 2626 Glenwood Avenue Suite 550, Raleigh,

NC 27608

Manner of Service: Authorized, Sep 5, 2024, 8:34 am EDT

Documents: Civil and Domestic Relations Case Filling Information Form, GA Summons, and Complaint with Exhibits A-D

Additional Service Information:

Age: 50; Ethnicity: Caucasian; Gender: Female; Weight: 250 lbs; Height: 5'6"; Hair: Brown

Diamond Eye Legal, LLC

PO BOX 121 Clayton, NC 27528 919-886-5001

Subscribed and sworn to before me by the affiant who is personally known to me.